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H – 1083

International Court of Justice

H1083-0002

OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT OF TESTIMONY FOR THE DEFENSE OF ORGANIZATIONS, TAKEN BEFORE A COMMISSION APPOINTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH 4 OF THE ORDER OF THE TRIBUNAL DATED 13 MARCH 1946

SUBMISSION OF AFFIDAVITS BY THE DEFENSE PURSUANT TO THE ORDER OF THE TRIBUNAL DATED 5 JULY 1946.

COMMISSIONERS:

Mr. George R. Taylor.

THE SS

(The Commission convened at 1530 hours)

MR. TAYLOR: Let the record show that the Commission has met for the purpose of hearing affidavits on behalf of the SS organization.

DR. PELKMANN: I am submitting a statement by the main defense counsel of the SS pertaining to the origin of the summary of 136, 213 affidavits of members of the SS, as follows:

"Enclosed I am submitting an evaluation of the 132,213 affidavits of SS members from internment camps. Partly, they are composed of individual affidavits but the greatest part are collective affidavits.

The contents of these affidavits is arranged according to the list shown in Appendix I. A special page is inserted pertinent to each individual point which will show the contents and the number of statements pertaining to that point. Under the direction of the witness, Dr. Reinicke, the affidavits on

H1083 - 0003

which this statement is based, were sorted by fifteen SS internees at present in the witness house of the prison. These SS internees are entitled to fulfill the function of a judge. The results of the evaluations were put on forms of which one copy is enclosed. The filled in forms are at my disposal here.

The 136, 213 individual and collective affidavits are sorted according to numbers and are available in the witness house of the prison. I will hear the witness, Reinicke, at the time of his interrogation before the Tribunal on the technic of the evaluation of the affidavits, how the forms were filled out and about the summary in enclosure No. 2.

I request a complete translation of this letter and the two enclosures mentioned therein so that it may be submitted to the Tribunal. Furthermore, I request a transfer of the 132,213 affidavits at present in the prison at the office of the Secretary General. Before me are the evaluation of the affidavits in German and they are xx at the disposal of the Court.

MR. TAYLOR: As I understand it you have requested a translation of the letter submitting the affidavits, which is signed by Dr. Pelkmann. Is it the letter you desire to have translated?

DR. PELKMANN: I believe that the translation of the letter is taken care of but both enclosures are to be translated.

7

H1083-0004

MR. TAYLOR: Let the record show that defense counsel requests translation of the letters and the exhibits attached thereto.

Now, if the Commission understands correctly, the folders which you have handed the Commission gives the valuation of all the affidavits which have been studies by those internees the organizations have appointed.

DR. PELKMANN: Yes.

MR. TAYLOR: Let the record show that the letter submitted by Dr. Pelkmann will be marked SS 119 for identification and the analysis will be marked SS No. 120 for identification and the forms as submitted will be marked SS 121, and the folder containing the ~~examination~~ evaluation of ~~132~~, 136,213 affidavits, members of the SS organizations which have been evaluated by the internees recommended and appointed by the organization, will be marked SS # 122 for identification.

DR. PELKMANN: They are statistics in the form of an affidavit. An affidavit by Counsellor, Dr. Pelkmann - this affidavit is bases on answers in reply to interrogatories and the associate defense counsel of the SS Babel had sent at the time to the internment camps of the SS. These statistics are important as a supplementary exhibit to the large collective affidavit material. I also request to have this translated in totl and I should like to have the affidavit by Dr. Babel read into the record.

MR. TAYLOR: Very well, the interpreter will pro-

H1083-0005

ceed to read the letter into the record.

(Interpreter reads into the record as follows)

"On May 15, 1946, defense counsel, Ludwig Babel sent a statistical interrogatory with a circular to prisoners of war at internment camps.

Enclosures No. 1 and 2.

The circular was sent to all of those camps which are found in the ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ camps registered.

Enclosure No. III, Appendix:

Due to the necessity for submitting the written affidavits for the organizations, the evaluation of the questionaires had to start on July 7th, 1946.

Enclosure No. IV shows the camps from which the interrogatory had been returned on July 7th, 1946. No contact could be made with the camps in the Russian zone and in Austria.

Since meanwhile, many of the members of the lower ranks of the General and Waffen SS had been released, a large part of the SS members could no longer be contacted. For instance, approximately 136,000 men had been released from the Prisoner of War enclosure 29-1 in Dachau with 6948 still remaining. About 6,000 had been released from the CIC 6 Neunpomme with 3812 still in the camps, 1175 had been dismissed from the Prisoner of War Enclosure 430 at Landsbut with 840 still in the camp. The figures of all of those camps were exploited in the following twenty six statistics which were in a po-

H1083 - 0006

sition to fill in the interrogatories and to return it in time. The figures were compiled as follows: SS members individually answered the questions in the interrogatory by way of an affidavit. A representative approved by the Allied Camp Commander has handled the figures derived therefrom and it has been put into the form of a statistical interrogatory. He affirmed it in an affidavit before an Allied official and stated that the collective figures for the camp had been collected by affidavits which were added completely incorrectly. As far as the camps were able to answer the individual questions, the results of the different camps were added in the following twenty-six statistics, and there it shows where the statistics have pertained to the individual questions.

I affirm under oath that this declaration corresponds to the truth and is made according to the best of my knowledge.

Nurnberg - July 10, 1946

(Signed) Dr. Pelkmann,
Defense Counsel for the SS."

MR. TAYLOR: Let the record show that the defense counsel requested the letter from Dr. Pelkmann read into the record and the attached statistics translated in full, which will be marked SS No. 123 for identification, and the request for the translation is noted in the record.

(The Commission adjourned at 1630 hours)

5

H1083 - 0007

The foregoing is a true and correct transcript of the submission of Affidavits by DR. PELCKMANN, taken on 2 August 1946.

Rose W Cook
Reporter (pp

CERTIFIED TO : Geo R T Wyler
Commissioner

H1083-0008

OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT OF TESTIMONY FOR THE DEFENSE OF ORGANIZATIONS, TAKEN BEFORE A COMMISSION APPOINTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH 4 OF THE ORDER OF THE TRIBUNAL DATED 13 MARCH 1946.

SUBMISSION OF AFFIDAVITS BY THE DEFENSE PURSUANT TO THE ORDER OF THE TRIBUNAL DATED 5 JULY 1946.

COMMISSIONER: Mr. George R. Taylor

2 August 1946

THE SS

(The Commission convened at 1530 hours)

MR. TAYLOR: Let the record show that the Commission has met for the purpose of hearing affidavits on behalf of the SS organization.

DR. PELCKMANN: I am submitting a statement by the main defense counsel of the SS pertaining to the origin of the summary of 136,213 affidavits of members of the SS, as follows:

"Enclosed I am submitting an evaluation of the 132,213 affidavits of SS members from internment camps. Partly, they are composed of individual affidavits but the greatest part are collective affidavits.

The contents of these affidavits is arranged according to the list shown in Appendix I. A special page is inserted pertinent to each individual point which will show the contents and the number of statements pertaining to that point. Under the direction of the witness, Dr. Reinicke, the affidavits on which this statement is based, were sorted by fifteen SS internees at present in the witness house of the prison. These SS internees are entitled to fulfill the functions of a judge. The results of the evaluations were put on forms of which one copy is enclosed. The filled in forms are at my disposal here.

The 136,213 individual and collective affidavits are sorted according to numbers and are available in the witness house of the prison. I will hear the witness, Reinicke, at the time of his interrogation before the Tribunal on the technic of the evaluation of the affidavits, how the forms were filled out and about the summary in enclosure No. 2.

I request a complete translation of this letter and the two enclosures mentioned therein so that it may be submitted to the Tribunal.

H1083 - 0009

Furthermore, I request a transfer of the 132,213 affidavits at present in the prison at the office of the Secretary General. Before me are the evaluation of the affidavitsin German and they are at the disposal of the Court."

MR. TAYLOR: As I understand it you have requested a translation of the letter submitting the affidavits, which is signed by Dr. Pelckmann. Is it the letter you desire to have translated?

DR. PELCKMANN: I believe that the translation of the letter is taken care of but both enclosures are to be translated.

MR. TAYLOR: Let the record show that defense counsel requests translation of the letters and the exhibits attached thereto.

Now, if the Commission understands correctly, the folders which you have handed the Commission gives the valuation of all the affidavits which have been studied by those internees the organizations have appointed.

DR. PELCKMANN: Yes.

MR. TAYLOR: Let the record show that the letter submitted by Dr. Pelckmann will be marked SS 119 for identification and the analysis will be marked SS No. 120 for identification and the forms as submitted will be marked SS 121, and the folder containing the evaluation of 136,213 affidavits, members of the SS organizations which have been evaluated by the internees recommended and appointed by the organization, will be marked SS #122 for identification.

DR. PELCKMANN: They are statistics in the form of an affidavit. An affidavit by Counsellor, Dr. Pelckmann - this affidavit is Based on answers in reply to interrogatories and the associate defense counsel of the SS Babel had sent at the time to the internment camps of the SS. These statistics are important as a supplementary exhibit to the large collective affidavits material. I also request to have this translated in total and I should like to have the affidavit by Dr. Babel read into the record.

MR. TAYLOR: Very well, the interpreter will proceed to read the latter into the record.

(Interpreter reads into the record as follows:)

"On May 15, 1946, defense counsel Ludwig Babel sent a statistical interrogatory with a circular to prisoners of war at internment camps."

H1083 - 0010

Enclosures No. 1 and 2.

The circular was sent to . of those camps which are found in the camps registered.

Enclosure No. III, Appendix:

Due to the necessity for submitting the written affidavits for the organizations, the evaludtion of the questionnaires had to start on July 7th, 1946.

Enclosure No. IV Shows the camps from which the interrogatory had been returned on July 7th, 1946. No contact could be made with the camps in the Russian Zone and in Austria.

Since meanwhile, many of the members of the lower ranks of the General and Waffen SS had been relc d, a large part of the SS members coul no longer be contacted. For instance, approximately, 136,000 men had been released from the Prisoner-of r enclosure 29-1 in Dachau with 6948 still remaining. About 6,000 had been released from the CIC 6 Neunpomme with 3812 still in the camps, 1175 had b n dismissed from the Prisoner of War enclosure 430 at Landsbut with 840 ill in the camp. The figures of all those camps were exploited in the following twenty six statistics which were in a position to fill in the interrogatories and to return it in time. The figures were compiled as follows. SS members individually answered the questions in the interrogatory by way of an affidavit. A representative approved by the Allied Camp Commander has handled the figures derived therefrom and it has been put into the form of a statistical interrogatory. He affirmed it in an affidavit before an Allied official and stated that the collective figures for the camp had been collected by affidavits which were added completely incorrectly. As far as the camps were able to answer the individual questions, the results of the different camps were added in the following twenty-six statistics, and there it shows where the statistics have pertained to the individual questions.

I affirm under oath that this declaration corresponds to the truth and is made according to the best of my knowledge.

Nurnberg - July 10, 1946

(Signed) Dr. Pelckmann,
Defense Counsel for the SS"

MR. TAYLOR: Let the record show that the defense counsel requested the letter from Dr. Pelckmann read into the record and the attached statistics translated in full, which will be marked Ss No. 123 for identification, and the request for the translation is noted in the record.

(The Commission adjourned at 1630 hours).

The foregoing is a true and correct transcript of the submission of Affidavits by DR. PELCKMANN, taken on 2 August 1946.

Rose W. Cook
Reporter

CERTIFIED TO:

Geo. R. Taylor
Commissioner



H1083-0011